

22 one or more screws including a longitudinal axis oriented along a plane substantially  
23 parallel to a longitudinal axis of the a leg of the tensioned blade extending across  
24 the aperture, for adjusting a distance between the first set of returns and the second  
25 set of returns and tensioning the tensioned blade along a plane substantially parallel  
26 to the longitudinal axis of each of the one or more screws.

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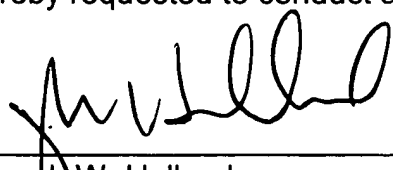
1 9. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set  
2 of returns and the second set of returns each comprise a height substantially equal  
3 to the width of the tensioned blade for transferring a substantially equal force across  
4 the width of the tensioned blade.

1 10. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set  
2 of returns and the second set of returns each further comprise a bearing face lying  
3 in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the leg of the  
4 tensioned blade extending across an aperture formed through the cutting head\_for  
5 imparting a substantially equally tensive force across the width of the cutting  
6 member.

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#### REMARKS

Applicant believes the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the same. If the Examiner is of a differing opinion he/she is hereby requested to conduct a telephonic interview with the undersigned attorney.



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GROUP ART UNIT: 3724  
EXAMINER: C. D xter

VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES  
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 21, 2002

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 - 10 have been amended as follows (deletions are enclosed in [] and additions are underlines):

1           1.     (Third Amendment) A cutting head assembly comprising:  
2           a cutting head including [a first set of returns and a second set of returns, the  
3     first set of returns adjustably opposing the second set of returns] a first head  
4     member including a first set of returns, the first head member adjustably connected  
5     to a second head member including a second set of returns;  
6           a cutting member [formed of a strip of material including a first end, a second  
7     end and a width, the cutting member including a serpentine configuration, the  
8     cutting member positioned about the first set of returns and the second set of  
9     returns the cutting member extending across an aperture formed through the cutting  
10    head, the first end and the second end of the cutting member secured to the cutting  
11    head] connected to the cutting head, the cutting member formed of a strip of  
12    material including a first end, a second end, a length and a width, a first end of the  
13    cutting member secured to the cutting head, the length of the cutting member  
14    positioned about the first set of returns and the second set of returns in a serpentine  
15    configuration, a leg of the cutting member extending across an aperture formed  
16    through the cutting head and the second end of the cutting member secured to the  
17    cutting head; and  
18           a cutting member tensioning device [including a screw adjustably attaching  
19     the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a distance between  
20     the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting

21 member] disposed between and adjustably engaging the first head member and  
22 second head member for adjusting a distance between the first set of returns and  
23 the second set of returns and tensioning the cutting member.

1           2.       (Twice Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 1 wherein the  
2 cutting member tensioning device further comprises [a screw adjustably attaching  
3 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a distance between  
4 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting  
5 member along a plane substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the screw] one  
6 or more cutting member tensioning screws disposed between and threadedly  
7 engaging the first head member and second head member for adjusting a distance  
8 between the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the  
9 cutting member.

1           4.       (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 1 wherein the first set  
2 of returns and the second set of returns each further comprise a bearing face lying  
3 in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the [plurality of] leg of  
4 the cutting member extending across an aperture formed through the cutting head  
5 [segments for imparting a substantially equally tensile force across the width of the  
6 cutting member].

1           6.       (Amended) The cutting assembly of Claim 1 wherein the cutting  
2 member tensioning device further comprises a screw including a longitudinal axis,  
3 the longitudinal axis of the screw oriented along a plane substantially parallel to a  
4 longitudinal axis of the [plurality of] leg of the cutting member extending across an  
5 aperture formed through the cutting head [segments], [and] the screw adjustably  
6 attaching the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a  
7 distance between the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning  
8 the cutting member along a plane substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the  
9 screw.

1           7.     (Twice Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 1 wherein the  
2 cutting member tensioning device further comprises a pair of screws, each of the  
3 pair of screws including a longitudinal axis, the longitudinal axis of each of the pair of  
4 screws oriented along a plane substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the  
5 [plurality of] leg [segments] of the cutting member extending across an aperture  
6 formed through the cutting head, and each of the pair of screws adjustably attaching  
7 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for adjusting a distance between  
8 the first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting  
9 member along a plane substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of each of the  
10 pair of screws.

1           8.     (Third Amendment) A cutting head assembly comprising:  
2 a cutting head including a first head member[, a second head member  
3 connected to the first head member, a first set of returns connected to the first head  
4 member adjustably opposing a second set of returns connected to the second head  
5 member] including a first set of returns, the first head member opposingly and  
6 adjustably connected to a second head member including a second set of returns;  
7  
8 a [cutting member formed of a strip of material including a first end, a second  
9 end, a longitudinal axis and a width, the cutting member including a serpentine  
10 configuration, the cutting member positioned about the first set of returns and the  
11 second set of returns, a leg of the cutting member extending across an aperture  
12 formed through the cutting head, the first end and the second end of the cutting  
13 member secured to the cutting head; and] tensioned blade formed of a strip of  
14 material including a first end, a second end, a length, a longitudinal axis and a width,  
15 the tensioned blade positioned about the first set of returns and the second set of  
16 returns in a serpentine configuration, a leg of the tensioned blade extending across  
17 an aperture formed through the cutting head, the first end of the tensioned blade

18 secured to the cutting head by a first end securing member and the second end of  
19 the tensioned blade secured to the cutting head at a second end securing member;  
20 the first set of returns each including a face that is oriented substantially  
21 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the tensioned blade for exerting a  
22 substantially equal tensile force across a full width of the tensioned blade,  
23 substantially reducing stress risers in the tensioned blade;  
24 the second set of returns each including a face that is oriented substantially  
25 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the tensioned blade for exerting a tensile  
26 force across a full width of the tensioned blade, substantially reducing stress risers  
27 in the tensioned blade; and  
28 a [cutting member tensioning device including a pair of screws, each of the  
29 pair of screws including a longitudinal axis oriented along a plane substantially  
30 parallel to a longitudinal axis of the leg of the tensionable cutting member extending  
31 across the aperture and each of the pair of screws adjustably attaching the first  
32 head member and the second head member for adjusting a distance between the  
33 first set of returns and the second set of returns for tensioning the cutting member  
34 along a plane substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of each of the pair of  
35 screws] tensioning device including one or more screws disposed between and  
36 adjustably engaging the first head member and second head member, each of the  
37 one or more screws including a longitudinal axis oriented along a plane substantially  
38 parallel to a longitudinal axis of the a leg of the tensioned blade extending across  
39 the aperture, for adjusting a distance between the first set of returns and the second  
40 set of returns and tensioning the tensioned blade along a plane substantially parallel  
41 to the longitudinal axis of each of the one or more screws.

1 9. (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set  
2 of returns and the second set of returns each comprise a height substantially equal  
3 to [a] the width of [cutting member] the tensioned blade for transferring a  
4 substantially equal force across the width of the [cutting member] the tensioned  
5 blade.

1           10.    (Amended) The cutting head assembly of Claim 8 wherein the first set  
2 of returns and the second set of returns each further comprise a bearing face lying  
3 in a plane substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the [plurality of] leg  
4 [segments] of the tensioned blade extending across an aperture formed through the  
5 cutting head for imparting a substantially equally tensive force across the width of  
6 the cutting member.